MERCURY

Strategic Compensation and Benefits

17 – 21 May 2027
Barcelona (Spain)



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Strategic Compensation and Benefits

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Introduction

The Strategic Compensation and Benefits course provides managers with advanced knowledge of developing compensation strategies that support organizational goals and workforce performance. It explores the principles of salary structures, employee benefits, reward systems, and strategic pay management approaches. Participants will understand how compensation decisions influence employee engagement, retention, motivation, and overall business success. The program focuses on aligning compensation practices with market trends, organizational priorities, and talent management strategies. Managers will gain the ability to evaluate compensation frameworks, analyze pay equity, and design benefits programs that create sustainable value. It emphasizes strategic decision-making skills to manage competitive compensation systems in dynamic business environments.

Targeted Groups

This Strategic Compensation and Benefits training targets professionals seeking knowledge and skills:

- HR managers managing compensation and reward strategies.
- Compensation specialists designing salary frameworks.
- Talent managers improving employee retention approaches.
- Business leaders making workforce investment decisions.
- Department managers managing employee performance rewards.
- HR professionals developing competitive benefits programs.
- Executives aligning rewards with organizational strategy.

Course Objectives

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Strategic Compensation and Benefits course:

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- Understand strategic compensation principles and their organizational impact.
- Analyze compensation structures and salary management approaches.
- Develop effective reward strategies aligned with business objectives.
- Evaluate employee benefits programs and market competitiveness.
- Apply job evaluation methods to support fair pay decisions.
- Identify factors influencing compensation planning and administration.
- Understand pay equity concepts and internal fairness practices.
- Design total rewards strategies supporting employee engagement.
- Analyze compensation trends and workforce expectations.
- Improve decision-making related to salary budgeting and benefits costs.
- Manage compensation policies that support talent attraction and retention.
- Evaluate performance-based compensation models and incentive systems.
- Apply strategic approaches for managing compensation challenges.
- Enhance leadership capabilities in reward management decisions.

Targeted Competencies

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Strategic Compensation and Benefits program:

- Strategic compensation planning and policy development skills.
- Ability to analyze salary structures and market positioning.
- Understanding of total rewards management practices.
- Capability to evaluate employee benefits effectiveness.
- Skills in designing performance-based reward systems.
- Knowledge of pay equity and compensation governance.
- Ability to support talent retention through rewards.
- Competence in compensation analysis and decision-making.
- Understanding of workforce motivation through strategic benefits.

Studying Scenarios

In this Strategic Compensation and Benefits training, participants develop skills through the following scenarios:

- Reviewing salary structures to align with the competitive market.
- Designing benefits packages for diverse employee groups.
- Evaluating compensation challenges during organizational transformation.
- Developing reward strategies supporting employee performance improvement.
- Analyzing pay equity issues within organizational departments.
- Creating compensation plans aligned with business growth objectives.

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Course Content

Unit 1: Foundations of Strategic Compensation Management

- Understanding the strategic role of compensation in organizations.
- Exploring the relationship between compensation strategies and business objectives.
- Defining strategic compensation and benefits management concepts.
- Examining how compensation influences employee motivation and engagement.
- Understanding the evolution of compensation practices in modern organizations.
- Identifying key components of a comprehensive compensation strategy.
- Recognizing the importance of competitive compensation systems in attracting talent.

Unit 2: Compensation Structure Design and Salary Management

- Understanding the principles of designing effective salary structures.
- Exploring job analysis and job evaluation methods for compensation decisions.
- Developing salary grades and pay ranges based on organizational requirements.
- Analyzing internal equity and external market competitiveness.
- Understanding market salary surveys and compensation benchmarking practices.
- Evaluating factors affecting salary decisions and pay progression.
- Designing salary administration processes that support organizational fairness.
- Managing compensation adjustments according to business and workforce needs.

Unit 3: Employee Benefits and Total Rewards Strategy

- Understanding the role of employee benefits within total rewards strategies.
- Exploring different types of employee benefits programs and structures.
- Designing benefits packages that support employee needs and organizational goals.
- Evaluating health, retirement, insurance, and wellness benefit programs.
- Understanding the relationship between benefits and employee satisfaction.
- Analyzing employee preferences when developing benefits strategies.
- Managing benefits costs while maintaining competitive employee offerings.
- Creating flexible benefits approaches that support workforce diversity.

Unit 4: Performance-Based Compensation and Reward Systems

- Understanding the principles of performance-based compensation models.
- Designing incentive programs linked to organizational performance objectives.
- Exploring variable pay structures and recognition strategies.
- Aligning employee rewards with measurable performance outcomes.
- Evaluating bonus systems and incentive effectiveness.
- Understanding the relationship between rewards and employee productivity.
- Developing compensation approaches that encourage high performance.
- Managing challenges associated with incentive-based reward programs.

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Unit 5: Strategic Compensation Governance and Future Trends

- Understanding compensation governance principles and decision-making frameworks.
- Developing compensation policies that promote transparency and consistency.
- Analyzing pay equity requirements and fair compensation practices.
- Exploring compensation analytics for strategic workforce decisions.
- Understanding the impact of technology on compensation management.
- Evaluating future trends in strategic rewards and employee benefits.
- Building sustainable compensation strategies for changing business environments.
- Integrating compensation planning with long-term talent management objectives.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways

Strategic Compensation and Benefits enables managers to design competitive reward systems that strengthen employee engagement, organizational performance, and talent sustainability. Effective compensation strategies require continuous analysis, fairness, and alignment between employee expectations and business objectives.